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R. Dmyt  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Okada *et al.*

Appl. No. To be Assigned

(Continuation of U.S. Appl. No. 08/818,964; Filed:  
March 14, 1997)

Filed: Herewith

For: **Axle Driving Apparatus**

Art Unit: To be Assigned

Examiner: To be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 0666.023000E/TGD/ALF

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendment into the application prior to the examination thereof.

Please amend the captioned application as follows:

***In the Claims:***

Please cancel claims 1-6 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Please add the following new claim:

-- 7. An axle driving apparatus comprising:

a housing;

a hydrostatic transmission disposed within said housing, said hydrostatic transmission including a hydraulic pump and a hydraulic motor, said hydraulic motor including an output shaft;

a pair of axles disposed within said housing;

NM? a pair of bevel gears, one disposed on each axle of said pair of axles;